

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 2408

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 24, 2004

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and
Public Works

AN ACT

To amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize
volunteer programs and community partnerships for na-
tional wildlife refuges, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Wildlife Ref-
3 uge Volunteer Act of 2004”.

4 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS**
5 **AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS UNDER**
6 **FISH AND WILDLIFE ACT OF 1956.**

7 Section 7(f) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16
8 U.S.C. 742f(f)) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There
10 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the
11 Interior to carry out subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e)
12 \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.”.

13 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF PROJECTS UNDER NATIONAL**
14 **WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM VOLUNTEER AND**
15 **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ENHANCEMENT**
16 **ACT OF 1998.**

17 Section 4(a) of the National Wildlife Refuge System
18 Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act
19 of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 742f note) is amended—

20 (1) in the heading by striking “PILOT”;

21 (2) by striking “pilot project” each place it ap-
22 pears and inserting “project”;

23 (3) in paragraph (1) by striking “, but not
24 more than 20 pilot projects nationwide”;

25 (4) in paragraph (3)—

1 (A) by striking “pilot projects” and insert-
2 ing “projects”; and

3 (B) by striking “after the date of the en-
4 actment of this Act” and inserting “after the
5 date of the enactment of the National Wildlife
6 Refuge Volunteer Act of 2003, and every 3
7 years thereafter”; and

8 (5) in paragraph (4) by striking “each of fiscal
9 years 1999 through 2002” and inserting “for each
10 fiscal year through fiscal year 2009”.

11 **SEC. 4. CLARIFICATION OF COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT AU-**
12 **THORITY.**

13 Section 7(d)(2) (A) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of
14 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f(d)(2)(A)) is amended to read as
15 follows:

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
17 chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, the
18 Secretary of the Interior may negotiate and
19 enter into a cooperative agreement with a part-
20 ner organization, academic institution, State or
21 local government agency, or other person to im-
22 plement one or more projects or programs for
23 a refuge or complex of geographically related
24 refuges in accordance with the purposes of this
25 subsection and in compliance with the policies

1 of other relevant authorities, regulations, and
2 policy guidance.”.

Passed the House of Representatives March 23,
2004.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.

By GERASIMOS C. VANS,

Deputy Clerk.